**February 17, 2025**

**$102K BTC price 'short squeeze'? 5 Things to know in Bitcoin this week**

Rangebound BTC price action is spawning more and more bets of a Bitcoin trend test next.

Bitcoin BTC $96,044 tests traders’ patience as a new week gets underway — can anything unstick BTC/USD from its sub-$100,000 range?

* BTC price inertia makes market participants increasingly nervous as attention focuses on a short squeeze.
* Fed minutes are due, and markets are in no mood to bet on the US inflation picture getting better soon.
* Exchange flows warn of a “bearish phase” for BTC price action, which is only beginning.
* BTC demand continues to paint a positive picture of investor confidence despite the bull market taking a month-long breather.
* Unrealized profits increasingly support the idea that a Bitcoin bull market top is not so far away.

**Liquidity boosts “short squeeze” hopes**

A stubborn trading range has left Bitcoin traders demanding more before betting on a trend in either direction this week.

Since its latest all-time highs in mid-January, BTC/USD has languished in the middle of its three-month trading corridor. It has also failed to seal $100,000 as definitive support, data from Cointelegraph Markets Pro and TradingView shows.

As time goes on, however, misgivings about the range floor at $90,000 holding are growing.

“If we dip lower to the range lows ($91k), I think it would be more likely to go lower around $88k. So I'd be careful longing the range lows blindly,” popular trader CrypNuevo wrote in a thread on X on Feb. 16.

“I guess many traders have set their long limit orders with stop-loss (SL) right below it, so it's possible to see a deviation.”

CrypNuevo used exchange liquidation data from crypto trading platform Hyblock Capital to identify two key potential short-term price magnets going forward.

“Since we're at the discount area of the range, very close to the range lows, I'm looking for longs,” he told followers.

“I do think that the upside liquidations will likely get hit fairly soon ($99.2k) but would love to re-enter at the lower liquidations ($93.3k) first.”

Fellow trader TheKingfisher, who specializes in liquidation analysis, argued that a short squeeze was the most likely next event on short timeframes with Bitcoin dipping below $96,000 after the weekly open.

“$BTC liquidity is currently piled up on the above within this consolidation,” Mikybull Crypto agreed while examining separate liquidation data from monitoring resource CoinGlass.

Popular trader CJ meanwhile targeted $102,000 as a near-term BTC price ceiling.

“With the weekly draw at 102.5k, we have above it an imbalance and fresh supply zone so we could wick up to 105k. Therefore, 102.5k - 105k is my HTF line in the sand,” he wrote in part of an X post on the coming week.